Case 1:05-cr-00135-PKC Document 97 Filed 07/10/09

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-v-

JUAN GABRIEL USUGA-NORENA, a/k/a "Miguel," and MARGARITA CARMONA-RUBIO,

Defendants. :

FINAL ORDER OF FORFEITURE
WITH RESPECT TO THE
PERSONAL PROPERTY

05 Cr. 135 (PKC)

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2005, JUAN GABRIEL USUGA-NORENA and MARGARITA CARMONA-RUBIO (the "Defendants"), among others, were charged in a four count Superceding Indictment, S2 05 Cr. 135 (PKC) (the "Indictment"), with two counts violating the narcotics laws of the United States and two counts money laundering of narcotics proceeds, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 812, 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A), 952(a), 960(a)(1), and 960(b)(1)(A) and 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i), and (h) and 1957(a); and

WHEREAS, the Indictment contained two forfeiture allegations, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982, 21 U.S.C. §§ 853 and 970, seeking criminal forfeiture of the following property involved in the money laundering offenses and all property traceable to such property, including but not limited to:

(a) The sum of money equal to \$1,300,000.00 in United States Currency, in that such sum in aggregate is property which was involved in the money laundering offense or is traceable to such property, for which the defendant are jointly and

severally liable, including but not limited to the specific property listed as items (i) - (iii):

- (i) Approximately \$17,300 in United States Currency seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;
- (ii) Approximately 110 items of jewelry seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004; and
- (iii)Approximately 48 pieces of artwork seized
 from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale,
 Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;
 (assets i-iii collectively referred to
 hereafter as the "Personal Property")
- (b) The following two real properties are listed as substitute assets:
 - (i) All right, title, and interest held by the defendants in the real property and appurtenances known as 3953 Osprey Court, Weston, Florida (the "Weston Property"); and
 - (ii) All right, title and interest held by the defendants in the real property and appurtenances known as 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida (the "Fort Lauderdale Property");

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2005, the Government filed a Forfeiture Bill of Particulars providing notice of its intent to criminally forfeit the following additional real property:

 (i) all that lot or parcel of land, together with its buildings, appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments and easements, located at Baranca 27 Este, Casa de Campo, La Romana, Dominican Republic (the "DR Property");

WHEREAS, on or about October 4, 2006, JUAN GABRIEL USUGA-NORENA (hereinafter referred to as "USUGA") pled guilty to

Superceding Information S3, including one count violation of Section 5324 of Title 31, United States Code;

WHEREAS, on or about December 13, 2006, the United States and defendant USUGA entered into a Stipulation, which was so ordered by the Court, which provided the following:

- Defendant USUGA was to sell the DR Property upon the Government's approval of the purchaser and the terms of the sale;
- 2. Defendant USUGA was to provide a check made payable to the United States Marshal's Service in the amount of \$3 Million, from the proceeds of the sale of the DR Property, within 30 days from the date of the sale; and
- 3. Defendant USUGA consented to the entry of an Order of Forfeiture with respect to the \$3 Million to the United States;

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2007, defendant USUGA was sentenced to time served, a three year term of supervised release with the special condition that the defendant pay the stipulated forfeiture money judgment in the amount of \$3,000,000.00, and a fine in the amount of \$267,708.00;

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2008, MARGARITA CARMONA-RUBIO

(hereinafter defendant "CARMONA-RUBIO"), entered a plea of guilty
to Superceding Information S4, including one count violation of
structuring transactions with one or more domestic financial
institutions for the purpose of evading the reporting
requirements of 31 U.S.C. § 5313(a), in violation of 18 U.S.C.
§4;

WHEREAS, CARMONA-RUBIO, as part of her written plea agreement, agreed to forfeit any interest she has in the Indicted Assets, including but not limited to the artwork, jewelry, and money (the "Personal Property"), seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, forfeiture of which shall be applied to the outstanding money judgment obligations of her husband, defendant USUGA;

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2009, defendant CARMONA-RUBIO was sentenced to a three year term of probation and a fine in the amount of \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, USUGA was not able to sell the DR Property and had not been able to pay any funds towards his \$3,000,000.00 forfeiture obligation;

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2009, a Stipulation and Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture was agreed to by the parties and ordered by the Court, which order provided for the forfeiture of the following assets:

- (i) Approximately \$17,300 in United States Currency seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;
- (ii) Approximately 110 items of jewelry seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004; and
- (iii) Approximately 48 pieces of artwork seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;

(iv) All right, title and interest held by the defendants in the real property and appurtenances known as 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida;

(collectively referred to hereafter as the "Defendant Property").

A copy of the Stipulation and Consent Preliminary Order of

Forfeiture is attached hereto as Exhibit A and is fully

incorporated by reference herein;

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2009, notice of the forfeiture action was sent by certified mail to George R. Goltzer, Esq., as counsel to the defendants, at 200 West 57th Street, Suite 900, New York, NY 10019. On March 17, 2009, notice was sent by certified mail to Susan M. Rosales, as counsel for Washington Mutual, at the Law Offices of Susan M. Rosales, 1900 S.W. 3rd Avenue, Miami, FL 33129, and to Home Loan Customer Service, P.O. Box 100579, Mail Stop: FSC0170, Florence, SC 29502-0576. On March 30, 2009, notice of the forfeiture action was sent to Andrew Pascale, Esq., as counsel for JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., at Shapiro & Fishman, LLP, 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360, Boca Raton, Florida 33431. Copies of the notice letters and certified mail receipts are attached hereto as Exhibit B;

WHEREAS, the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 853 (n)(1), requires publication of notice of forfeiture and of the Government's intent to dispose of the defendant property before the United States can have clear title to the defendant property;

WHEREAS, notice of forfeiture was posted on an official

government internet site (www.forfeiture.gov) for at least 30 consecutive days, beginning on March 14, 2009, as required by Rule G(4)(a)(iv)(C) of the supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, and proof of such publication was filed with the Clerk of the Court on April 21, 2009. A copy of the proof of publication is attached hereto as Exhibit C:

WHEREAS, on or about June 5, 2009, JP Morgan Chase (the "Claimant"), as the current mortgage holder on both the Weston

Property and the Fort Lauderdale Property filed a claim;

WHEREAS, 30 days have expired since the final publication of notice and no petitions to contest the forfeiture have been filed with respect the Personal Property, namely items (i) - (iii), as listed on the Stipulation and Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture;

NOW, THEREFORE, on the application of LEV L. DASSIN, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, by Lisa Korologos, Assistant United States Attorney,

IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. All right, title and interest in the following property is hereby forfeited and vested in the United States of America, and shall be disposed of according to law:
 - (i) Approximately \$17,300 in United States Currency seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;

- (ii) Approximately 110 items of jewelry seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004; and
- (iii)Approximately 48 pieces of artwork seized from 5600 Thoroughbred Lane, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on or about October 13, 2004;

(Collectively referred to as the "Forfeited Property")

- 2. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(7) the United States of America shall and is hereby deemed to have clear title to the Forfeited Property.
- 3. The United States Marshals Service, United States Customs and Border Protection, or their designee shall take possession of the Forfeited Property and dispose of the same according to law, in accordance with 21 U.S.C. § 853 (h).
- 4. The Clerk is hereby directed to send four certified copies of this Order to AUSA Lisa Korologos, at the U.S. Attorney's Office- S.D.N.Y., One St. Andrews Plaza, New York, NY 10007.

Dated: New York, New York July 7, 2009

SO ORDERED:

HONORABLE P. KEVIN CASTEL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE